Hebrew

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1 Overview

Language family: Afro-Asiatic (Semitic)

Countries: Israel **Number of speakers:** 9 million

Agreement features: gender, number, person

Attested word orders: SV, VS¹ **Coordination types:** and, or

(The data shown here were elicited with a native speaker. Two more native speakers entered data via an online survey. Even though the verb forms showed some variation, all speakers showed the same patterns for number and gender. As for person, the online survey did not check for all combinations.)

2 Patterns for gender

2.1 Coordination with "and"

2.1.1 SV order

Pattern: Mismatches are resolved to masculine. (Note: Gender is not marked in 3rd person plural.)

1st conjunct	2nd conjunct	fem	masc
fem		fem	masc
masc		masc	masc

Examples:

(1) a. ha-gever ve-ha-isha ratsu the-man and-the-woman run.PL.MASC 'The man and the woman are running.'

> b. ha-isha ve-ha-gever ratsu the-woman and-the-man run.PL.MASC 'The woman and the man are running.'

2.1.2 VS order

Pattern: Mismatches are resolved to masculine. (Note: Gender is not marked in 3rd person plural.)

1st conjunct	2nd conjunct	fem	masc
fem		fem	masc
masc		masc	masc

Examples:

(2) a. le-sham ratsu he-gever ve-ha-isha to-there run.PL.MASC the-man and-the-woman

'The man and the woman are running there.'

b. le-sham ratsu ha-isha ve-ha-gever to-there run.PL.MASC the-woman and-the-man 'The woman and the man are running there.'

2.2 Coordination with "or"

2.2.1 SV order

Pattern: Mismatches are resolved to masculine. (Note: Gender is not marked in 3rd person plural.)

1st conjunct	2nd conjunct	fem	masc
fem		fem	masc
masc		masc	masc

Examples:

- (3) a. ha-gever o ha-isha ratsu the-man or the-woman run.PL.MASC 'The man or the woman are running.'
 - b. ha-isha o ha-gever ratsu the-woman or the-man run.PL.MASC 'The woman or the man are running.'

2.2.2 VS order

Pattern: Mismatches are resolved to masculine. (Note: Gender is not marked in 3rd person plural.)

1st conjunct	2nd conjunct	fem	masc
fem		fem	masc
masc		masc	masc

Examples:

- (4) a. le-sham ratsu he-gever o ha-isha to-there run.PL.MASC the-man or the-woman 'The man or the woman are running there.'
 - b. le-sham ratsu ha-isha o ha-gever to-there run.PL.MASC the-woman or the-man 'The woman or the man are running there.'

3 Patterns for number

3.1 Coordination with "and"

3.1.1 SV order

Pattern: There is plural marking throughout. (According to three speakers.)

1st conjunct	2nd conjunct	sg	pl
sg		pl	pl
pl		pl	pl

- (5) ha-jeled ve-ha-gever ratsu the-boy and-the-man run.PL.MASC 'The boy and the man are running.'
- (6) a. ha-jeladim ve-ha-gever ratsu the-boys and-the-man run.PL.MASC 'The boys and the man are running.'
 - b. ha-jeled ve-ha-gvarim ratsu the-boy and-the-men run.PL.MASC 'The boy and the men are running.'

3.1.2 VS order

Pattern: There is plural marking throughout.

1st conjunct	2nd conjunct	sg	pl
sg		pl	pl
pl		pl	pl

Examples:

- (7) le-sham ratsu ha-jeled ve-ha-gever to-there run.PL.MASC the-boy and-the-man 'The boy and the man are running there.'
- (8) a. le-sham ratsu ha-jeladim ve-ha-gever to-there run.PL.MASC the-boys and-the-man 'The boys and the man are running there.'
 - b. le-sham ratsu ha-jeled ve-ha-gvarim to-there run.PL.MASC the-boy and-the-men 'The boy and the men are running there.'

3.2 Coordination with "or"

3.2.1 SV order

Pattern: With two singular conjuncts, plural marking on the verb is fine, while singular marking is only possible if both conjuncts are focussed. If the two conjuncts mismatch in number, number is resolved to plural.

2nd conjunct 1st conjunct	sg	pl
sg	pl/sg	pl
pl	pl	pl

- (9) a. ha-jeled o ha-gever ratsu the-boy or the-man run.PL.MASC 'The boy or the man are running.'
 - b. ha-JELED o ha-GEVER rats the-boy or the-man run.SG.MASC 'The boy or the man are running.'
- (10) a. ha-jeladim o ha-gever ratsu the-boys or the-man run.PL.MASC 'The boys or the man are running.'
 - b. ha-jeled o ha-gvarim ratsu the-boy or the-men run.PL.MASC 'The boy or the men are running.'

3.2.2 VS order

Pattern: With two singular conjuncts, plural marking or singular marking on the verb is fine. If the two conjuncts mismatch in number, number is resolved to plural.

2nd conjunct 1st conjunct	sg	pl
sg	pl/sg	pl
pl	pl	pl

Examples:

- (11) le-sham ratsu/rats ha-jeled o ha-gever to-there run.PL.MASC/run.SG.MASC the-boy or the-man 'The boy or the man are running there.'
- (12) a. le-sham ratsu ha-jeladim o ha-gever to-there run.PL.MASC the-boys or the-man 'The boys or the man are running there.'
 - b. le-sham ratsu ha-jeled o ha-gvarim to-there run.PL.MASC the-boy or the-men 'The boy or the men are running there.'

4 Patterns for person

4.1 Coordination with "and"

4.1.1 SV order

Pattern: Mismatching person is resolved following the hierarchy 1 > 2 > 3. (Number is resolved to plural.)

2nd conjunct 1st conjunct	1	2	3
1		1pl	1pl
2	1pl		2pl
3	1pl	2pl	

- (13) a. ani ve-ata ratsnu I and-you.MASC run.1PL 'I and you run.'
 - b. ata ve-ani ratsnu you.MASC and-I run.1PL 'You and I run.'
 - c. ani ve-hu ratsnu I and-he run.1PL 'I and he run.'
 - d. hu ve-ani ratsnu he and-I run.1PL 'He and I run.'
 - e. ata ve-hu ratstem you.MASC and-he run.2PL 'You and he run.'
 - f. hu ve-ata ratstem he and-you.MASC run.2PL 'He and you run.'

4.1.2 VS order

Pattern: Mismatching person is resolved following the hierarchy 1 > 2 > 3. (Number is resolved to plural.) If the first conjunct is 3rd person, the result is ineffable.

2nd conjunct 1st conjunct	1	2	3
1		1pl	1pl
2	1pl		2pl
3	ineff	ineff	

Examples:

- (14) a. le-sham ratsnu ani ve-ata to-there run.1PL I and-you.MASC 'I and you are running there.'
 - b. le-sham ratsnu ata ve-ani to-there run.1PL you.MASC and-I 'You and I are running there.'
 - c. le-sham ratsnu ani ve-hu to-there run.1PL I and-he 'I and he are running there.'
 - d. *le-sham ratsnu hu ve-ani to-there run.1PL he and-I

- 'He and I are running there.'
- e. *le-sham ratstem hu ve-ata to-there run.2PL he and-you.MASC 'He and you are running there.'
- f. le-sham ratstem ata ve-hu to-there run.2PL you.MASC and-he 'You and he are running there.'

4.2 Coordination with "or"

4.2.1 SV order

Pattern: Mismatching person is resolved following the hierarchy 1 > 2 > 3. (Number is resolved to plural.)

2nd conjunct 1st conjunct	1	2	3
1		1pl	1pl
2	1pl		2pl
3	1pl	2pl	

Examples:

- (15) a. ani o ata ratsnu
 I or you.MASC run.1PL
 'I or you run.'
 - b. ata o ani ratsnu you.MASC or I run.1PL 'You or I run.'
 - c. ani o hu ratsnu
 I or he run.1PL
 'I or he run.'
 - d. hu o ani ratsnu he or I run.1PL 'He or I run.'
 - e. ata o hu ratstem you.MASC or he run.2PL 'You or he run.'
 - f. hu o ata ratstem he or you.MASC run.2PL 'He or you run.'

4.2.2 VS order

Pattern: Mismatching person is resolved following the hierarchy 1 > 2 > 3. (Number is resolved to plural.) If one of the conjuncts is 3rd person, the result is ineffable.

2nd conjunct 1st conjunct	1	2	3
1		1pl	ineff
2	1pl		ineff
3	ineff	ineff	

- (16) a. le-sham ratsnu ani o ata to-there run.1PL I or you.MASC 'I or you are running there.'
 - b. le-sham ratsnu ata o ani to-there run.1PL you.MASC or I 'You or I are running there.'
 - c. *le-sham ratsnu ani o hu to-there run.1PL I or he 'I or he are running there.'
 - d. *le-sham ratsnu hu o ani to-there run.1PL he or I 'He or I are running there.'
 - e. *le-sham ratstem hu o ata to-there run.2PL he or you.MASC 'He or you are running there.'
 - f. *le-sham ratstem ata o hu to-there run.2PL you.MASC or he 'You or he are running there.'